

RE: MB Docket No. 15-149

Tom Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

As the State Senator for Michigan's 20th Senate District, encompassing Kalamazoo County, I am writing in support of New Charter – the proposed merger between Charter Communications, Time Warner Cable and Bright House Networks.


New Charter will make comprehensive and significant investments in its broadband network. As part of their plans, they will transition Time Warner Cable and Bright House Networks cables systems to all-digital networks. This will enable consumers to take advantage of at least 60 Mbps download speeds and enjoy more High Definition and video on demand options.

Additionally New Charter will invest significantly in both in-home and out-of-home WiFi. Under the merger, they will increase competition in the mobile data market by deploying over 300,000 out-of-home WiFi access points. With more investment, they will build out one million line extensions of their networks into residential areas, with new facilities that will help provide high-speed service to rural and other underserved areas.

The people of my district feel strongly about the importance of American jobs. New Charter will begin to bring Time Warner Cable call center jobs back to the United States. They will hire for field technician operations and customer service call centers at locations across the United States. Aside from the direct impact of adding jobs to the economy, New Charter will also offer affordable, reliable communication services, with fast and affordable broadband that is key to ensuring that we can compete in today's increasingly global economy.

On behalf of the people of Kalamazoo County, I ask the FCC to approve this merger.

Sincerely,


Sen. Margaret O'Brien
Michigan State Senate